# A TRVE RELATION OF

The late Battell fought in *New-England*, between the Engliſh and the *Pequet Salvages*.

In which were ſlaine and taken priſoners about 700. of the Salvages, and thoſe which eſcaped, had their heads cut off by the Mohocks:

With the preſent ſtate of things there.

*LONDON*,
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# Ad Lectorem

## Authoris carmen [illegible] de Victoria hac Nov'-Anglica, 1637.

*DVcit in Americam varios gens Angla Colonos;*
*et bene conveniunt sydera, terra, solum.*
*Ast ferus hoc prohibet, solis vagabundus in arvis,*
*insolitoq; aliquos, incola, Marte necat.*
*Quod simul invitas crimen pervenit ad aures*
*Angligenûm, irato murmure cuncta fremunt.*
*Tunc læsi justa arma movent, hostemq; sequuntur,*
*struxerat, haud vanis, qui munimenta locis.*
*Invadunt vallum, palis sudibusq; munitum:*
*(pax erit: hoc uno solvitur ira modo.)*
*Vndiq; concidunt omnes, pars una crematur:*
*post, cæsi, aut capti cætera turba luit.*
*Vtraq; lætatur Pequetanis Anglia victis,*
*et novus æternum, [illegible], figimur hospes ait.*
*Virginia exultat, vicina Novonia gaudet,*
*Signaq; securæ certa quietis habent.*
*Plaudite qui colitis Mavortia sacra nepotes,*
*et serat incultos tutus arator agros.*
*Qua novus orbis erat, spiranti numine, (Lector)*
*Anglia nascetur, quæ novus orbis erit.*

P. Vincentius.

*Nihil obſtare videtur quo minus hæc Relatio typis mandetur.*

Novemb. ix. M.DC.xxxvij.
G.R.WECKHERLIN.

# A true Relation of the late Battell fought in *New-England*, between the *Engliſh* and *Salvages*, with the preſent ſtate of things there.

*New England* (a name now every day more famous) is ſo called, becauſe the Engliſh were the firſt Diſcoverers, and are now the Planters thereof. It is the Eaſterne Coaſt of the North part of *America*, upon the South-weſt adjoyning to *Virginia*, and part of that Continent, large and capable of innumerable people. It is in the ſame height with the North of *Spaine*, and South part of *France*, and the temper not much unlike: as pleaſant, as temperate and as fertile as either, if managed by induſtrious hands.

This is the Stage. Let us in a word ſee the Actors. The yeare 1620. a Company of Engliſh part out of the *Low Countries*, and ſome out of *London* and other parts, were ſent for *Virginia*. But being cut ſhort by want of winde, and hardneſſe of the Winter, they landed themſelves in this

this Countrey, enduring, with great hope and patience, all the misery that Defart could put upon them, and imployed their wits to make their best use of that then Snow-covered land for their necessities. After two years experience of the nature of the soyle, commodities, and natives, they returned such intelligence to their Masters, that others tooke notice of their endevoors, and the place. Then some Westerne Merchants collected a stocke, and employed it that way. But they discouraged through losses, and want of present gaine, some Londoners, and others (men of worth) undertooke it, with more resolution, building upon the old foundation. Hence a second plantation adjoyned to the other, but supported with better pillars, and greater meanes. All beginnings are ever difficult. The halfe, saith the Proverb, is more then the whole. Some errours were committed, and many miseries were endured. No man is wise enough to shun all evils that may happen; but patience and painefulnesse overcame all. The successe proved answerable even to ambitious expectations, notwithstanding the impediments inevitable to such undertakings.

There is scarce any part of the world but habitable, though more commodiously by humane culture. This part, (though in its Naturals) nourished many natives, distinguished into divers petty nations and factions. It were needlesse curiosity to dispute their originall, or how they came hither. Their outsides say they are men, their

their actions they ſay are reaſonable. As the thing is, ſo it operateth. Their correſpondency of diſpoſition with us, argueth all to be of the ſame conſtitution, and the ſons of *Adam*, and that we had the ſame matter, the ſame mould. Onely *Art* and *Grace* have given us that perfection, which yet they want, but may perhaps be as capable thereof as we. They are of perſon ſtraight and tall, of limbs big and ſtrong, ſeldome ſeene violent, or extreme in any paſſion. Naked they goe, except a skin about their waſte, and ſometimes a Mantle about their ſhoulders. Armed they are with Bowes and Arrowes, Clubs, Iavelins, &c. But as ſoyle, ayre, diet, and cuſtome make oft times a memorable difference in mens natures, ſo it is among theſe Nations, whoſe countries there are like ſo many Shires here, of which every one hath their Sagamore, or King, who as occaſion urgeth, commandeth them in warre, and ruleth them in Peace. Thoſe where the *Engliſh* pitched, have ſhewed themſelves very loving and friendly, and done courteſies beyond expectation for theſe new-come Inmates. So that much hath beene written of their civility and peacefull converſation, untill this yeare.

But Nature, heavens daughter, and the immediate character of that divine power, as by her light ſhe hath taught us wiſedome, for our owne defence, ſo by her fire ſhe hath made us fierce, injurious, revengefull, and ingenious in the device of meanes for the offence of thoſe we take to be our enemies. This is ſeene in creatures voyd

of reaſon, much more in mankinde. We have in us a mixture of all the Elements, and fire is predominant when the humours are exagitated. All motion cauſeth heat. All provocation moveth choller, and choler inflamed, becommeth a phrenſie, a fury, eſpecially in barbarous and cruell natures. Theſe things are conſpicuous in the Inhabitants of *New England*. In whoſe Southermoſt part are the *Pequets*, or *Pequants*, a ſtately warlike people, which have been terrible to their neighbours, and troubleſome to the *Engliſh*.

In *February* laſt they killed ſome *Engliſh* at *Sea-brooke*, a Southerly Plantation beyond *Cape Cod*, at the mouth of the River of *Connecticut*. Since that the Lieutenant of the Fort there, with tenne men armed, went out to fire the Meadows, and to fit them for mowing. Arriving there, he ſtarted three *Indians*, which he purſued a little way, thinking to cut them off. But preſently they perceived themſelves incompaſſed with hundreds of them, who let flie their arrowes furiouſly, and came deſperately upon the muſles of their Muskets, though the *Engliſh* diſcharged upon them, with all the ſpeed they could. Three *Engliſh* men were there ſlaine, others wounded. The eight that remained, made their way through the *Salvages* with their ſwords, and ſo got under the command of the Canon of the Fort, (otherwiſe they had beene all ſlaine, or taken priſoners) one of the wounded falling downe dead at the Fort Gate. The *Indians* thus fleſhed and encouraged, beſieged the

Fort

Fort as neere as they durſt approach. The beſieged preſently diſpatched a meſſenger to the Governour at the *Bay*, to acquaint him with theſe ſad tidings, who with all ſpeed ſent unto their aide, Captaine *Vnderhill*, with twenty ſoulciers. Not long after theſe *Salvages* went to *Water-Towne*, now called *Wetherſield*, and there fell upon ſome that were ſawing, and ſlew nine more, whereof one was a woman, the other a childe, and tooke two yong Maids priſoners, killing ſome of their cattell, and driving ſome away. Mans nature inſulteth in victory and proſperity, and by good ſucceſſe is animated even in the worſt of wicked actions. Theſe *Barbarians* triumphed and proceeded, drawing into their confederacy other *Indians*, as the *Nyantecets*, and part of the *Mohigens*, of whom about fifty choſe rather to joyne with the *Engliſh*, and ſate downe at *New-Towne*, at *Connecticut* (now called *Hereford*, as the other Towne that went from *Dorcheſter* thither is called *Windſore*.) Fame encreaſeth by flying. The former ſad newes was augmented by the report of ſixty men ſlaine at Maſter *Pinchens* Plantation, &c. which proved falſe. The *Narraganſets* neighbours to the *Pequets*, ſent word to the *Engliſh*, that the *Pequets* had ſolicited them to joyne their forces with them. Hereupon the Councell ordered that none ſhould goe to work, nor travell, no not ſo much as to Church, without Arms. A Corps of Guard of 14. or 15. ſouldiers was appointed to watch every night, & Centinels were ſet in convenient places about the

Plantations, the Drumme beating when they went to the Watch, and every man commanded to be in readineſſe upon an Alarme, upon paine of five pound. A day of faſt and prayers was alſo kept. Forty more were ſent to ſtrengthen the former twenty that went to the Fort, and 50 under the cõmand of Captaine *Maſon*, which being conjoyned, were about 100. Two hundred more were to be ſent after them with all expedition.

The 50 *Mohigins* that joyned with the *Engliſh*, ſcouting about, eſpied 7 *Pequets*, killed five of them outright, wounded the ſixt mortally, took the ſeventh priſoner, and brought him to the Fort. He braved the *Engliſh*, as though they durſt not kill a *Pequet*. Some will have their courage to be thought invincible, when all is deſperate. But it availed this Salvage nothing; they tied one of his legs to a poſt, and 20 men with a rope tied to the other, pulled him in pieces, Captain *Vnderhill* ſhooting a piſtoll through him, to diſpatch him. The two Maids which were taken priſoners were redeemed by the *Dutch*.

Thoſe 50 ſent from the three plantations of *Connecticut* with Captain *Maſon*, being joyned with Captain *Vnderhill* and his 20 men, (for the other 40 were not yet arrived with them) immediately went upon an expedition againſt the *Pequets*, after they had ſearched for them. The manner was this. The *Engliſh* with ſome *Mohigens* went to the *Naraganſets*, who were diſcontented that they came no ſooner, ſaying they could arme and ſet forth two or three hundred at ſix hours warning,

(which

(which they did accordingly, for the assistance of the *English*) only they desired the advice of the *Sagamore, Mydutonno*, what way they should go to work, and how they should fall on the *Pequets*: whose judgement in all things, agreed with the *English*, as though they had consulted together. Then went they to the *Nyanticke*, and he set forth 200 more, but before they went, he swore them after his manner upon their knees. As they marched they deliberated which Fort of the *Pequets* they should assault, resolving upon the great Fort, and to be there that night. Being on the way, and having a mile to march through Swamps, the *Nyanticke* hearts failed, for feare of the *Pequets*, and so they ran away, as also did some of the *Narraganſets*. Of five or 600 *Indians*, not above halfe were left: and they had followed the rest, had not Captain *Vnderhill* upbraided them with cowardise, and promised them they should not fight or come within shot of the Fort, but only surround it a farre off. At breake of day the 70 *English* gave the Fort a Volly of shot, whereat the *Salvages* within made an hideous and pittifull cry; the shot without all question flying through the *Palliſadoes* (which stood not very close) and killing or wounding some of them. Pitty had hindred further hostile proceedings, had not the remẽbrance of the bloudshed, the captive Maid, and cruell insolency of those *Pequets*, hardned the hearts of the *English*, and stopped their eares unto their cryes. Mercy marres all sometimes, severe Iustice must now and then take place.

The long forbearance, and too much lenity of

the Engliſh toward the Virginian Salvages, had like to have bin the deſtructiō of the whole Plantation: Theſe Barbarians (ever treacherous) abuſe the goodneſſe of thoſe that condeſcend to their rudeneſſe & imperfections. The Engliſh went reſolutely up to the door of the Fort. What ſhal we enter ſaid Captain *Vnderhill?* What come we for elſe? anſwered one *Hedge*, a yong Northamptonſhire gentleman: who advancing before the reſt, pluckt away ſome buſhes & entred. A ſtout *Pequet* encounters him, ſhoots his arrow (drawn to the head) into his right arme, where it ſtuck. He ſlaſht the Salvage betwixt the arm and ſhoulder, who preſſing towards the door, was killed by the *Engliſh*. Immediatly Maſter *Hedge* incountred another, who perceiving him upon him before he could deliver his arrow, gave back: but he ſtruck up his heels and run him thorow; after him he killed two or three more. Then about halfe the *Engliſh* entred, fell on with courage, and ſlew many. But being ſtraitned for room becauſe of the Wigwams (which are the Salvage huts or cabins) they called for fire to burn them. An *Engliſh* man ſtept into a Wigwam, and ſtooping for a fire-brand, an Indian was ready to knock out his brains. But he whipt out his ſword and run him into the belly, that his bowels followed. Then were the Wigwams ſet on fire, which ſo raged, that what therwith, what with the ſword, in little more than an hour, betwixt three and foure hundred of them were killed, and of the *Engliſh* only two, one of them by our own Muskets, as is thought. For the *Naraganſets* beſet the Fort ſo cloſe, that not one eſcaped.

eſcaped. The whole work ended, ere the Sun was an hour high, the conquerors retraited down toward the Pinnace, but in their march were infeſted by the reſt of the *Pequets*: who ſcouting up and down, from the ſwamps and thickets, let flye their arrowes amain, which were anſwered by *Engliſh* bullets. The Indians that then aſſiſted the *Engliſh*, waiting the fall of the *Pequets*, as the dog watcheth the ſhot of the fowler to fetch the prey) ſtill fetched them their heads, as any were ſlain. At laſt the *Narraganſets* perceiving powder and ſhot to faile, and fearing to fall into the hands of their enemies, betook themſelves to flight upon the ſudden, and were as ſuddenly encompaſſed by the *Pequets*. Feare defeateth great armies. If an apprehenſion of eminent danger once poſſeſſe thē, it is in vain to ſtay the run-awaies. No oratory can recall them, no command can order them again. The onely ſure way, is by all means that may be, promiſes, threats, perſwaſions, &c. to maintain & keep up courage, where yet it is. But theſe fearfull companions had one Anchor, whoſe cable was not brokē. They ſent ſpeedily to the *Engliſh*, who came to their reſcue: and after five Muskets diſcharged, the *Pequets* fled. Thus freed frō that fear, they vowed henceforth to cleave cloſer to the *Engliſh*, & never to forſake them in time of need. The reaſon why the *Engliſh* wanted amunition was, becauſe they had left that which they had for ſtore, with their drum, at the place of their cō-ſultation: But found it in their return. They now all went a ſhip-board and ſayled to *Seabrook* Fort, where the *Engliſh* feaſted the *Narraganſets* three daies, & then ſent thē home in a pinance. Let

Let me now deſcribe this military fortreſſe which naturall reaſon & experience hath taught them to erect, without mathematicall skill, or uſe of iron-toole. They chooſe a piece of ground dry and of beſt advantage 40 or 50 foot ſquare. (But this was at leaſt two acres of ground,) here they pitch cloſe together, as they can yong trees and halfe trees, as thick as a mans thigh, or the calf of his leg. Ten or twelve foot high they are above the ground, and within rammed three foot deep, with undermining, the earth being caſt up for their better ſhelter againſt the enemies diſchargements. Betwixt theſe palliſadoes are divers loop-hools, through which they let flye their winged meſſengers. The door for the moſt part is entred ſide-waies, which they ſtop with boughs or buſhes, as need requireth. The ſpace within is full of Wigwams, wherein their wives and children live with them. Theſe huts or little houſes are framed like our garden arbours, ſomething more round, very ſtrong and handſome, covered with cloſe wrought mats, made by their women, of flags, ruſhes, and hempen threds, ſo defenſive, that neither raine, though never ſo bad and long, nor yet the winde, though never ſo ſtrong can enter. The top through a ſquare hole giveth paſſage to the ſmoke, which in rainy weather is covered with a pluver. This Fort vvas ſo crovvded vvith theſe numerous dvvellings, that the *Engliſh* vvanted foot-room to grapple vvith their adverſaries, and therfore ſet fire on all.

The Mohighens which ſided with the Engliſh in this action, behaved themſelves ſtoutly. Which the

the other *Pequets* underſtanding, cut off all the *Mohigens* that remain with them(leſt they ſhould turne to the Engliſh) except ſeven: who flying to our Country-men, related this newes; and that about an hundred *Pequets* were ſlaine,or hurt in the fight with the Engliſh, at their returne from the Fort. Moreover, that they had reſolved to have ſent an hundred choice men out of their Fort, as a partie againſt the Engliſh, the very day after they were beaten out by them. But being now vanquiſhed, *Saſacus* the Pequetan captaine, with the remainder of this maſſacre, was fled the Countrey.

It is not good to give breath to a beaten Enemie, leſt hee returne armed, if not with greater puiſſance, yet with greater deſpite and revenge. Too much ſecuritie, or neglect in this kind, hath oft times ruined the Conquerors. The two hundred Engliſh therfore, reſolved on before, were now ſent forth to chaſe the *Barbarians*, and utterly root them out. Whereupon, Captaine *Vnderhill* with his twenty men returned, and gave this account of thoſe exploits of the *New-Englanders*, which here we have cõmunicated to the old Engliſh world. This laſt partie invaded the Pequetan Country, killed twenty three, ſaved the lives of two *Sagamores* for their uſe hereafter, as occaſion ſhall ſerve, who have promiſed to doe great matters for the advancing of the Engliſh affaires, they purſued the remnant threeſcore miles beyond the Countrey (till within ſix and

thirty miles of the Dutch Plantations on *Hudsons* river) where they fought with them, killed forty or fifty, beſides thoſe that they cut off in their retreat, and tooke priſoners one hundred eightie that came out of a Swampe, and yielded themſelves upon promiſe of good quarter. Some other ſmall parties of them were ſince deſtroyed; and captain *Patrick* with ſixteen or eighteen, brought eightie captives to the Bay of *Boſton*. The newes of the flight of *Saſſacus* their Sagamore, is alſo confirmed. He went with forty men to the *Mohocks*, which are cruell bloody Canibals, and the moſt terrible to their neighbours of all theſe nations: but will ſcarſe dare ever to carry armes againſt the Engliſh, of whom they are fore afraid, not daring to incounter white men with their hot-mouth'd weapons, which ſpit nothing elſe but bullets and fire.

The terrour of victorie changeth even the affection of the allies of the vanquiſhed, and the ſecuring of our owne eſtates makes us neglect, yea forſake, or turne againſt our confederates, and ſide with their Enemies and ours, when wee deſpaire of better remedie. Theſe cruell, but wily *Mohocks*, in contemplation of the Engliſh, and to procure their friendſhip, entertaine the fugitive *Pequets* and their Captaine, by cutting off all their heads and hands, which they ſent to the Engliſh, as a teſtimonie of their love and ſervice.

A day of thankſgiving was ſolemnly celebrated

ted for this happy ſucceſſe; the *Pequetans* now ſeeming nothing but a name, for not leſſe than 700 are ſlaine or taken priſoners. Of the Engliſh are not ſlaine in all above 16. One occurrent I may not forget. The indeavours of privat men are ever memorable in theſe beginnings: the meaneſt of the vulgar is not incapable of vertue, and conſequently, neither of honour. Some actions of *Plebeians* have elſwhere beene taken for great atchievements. A pretty ſturdy youth of new *Ipſwich*, going forth ſomewhat raſhly to purſue the *Salvages*, ſhot off his Musket after them till all his powder and ſhot were ſpent; which they perceiving, reaſſaulted him, thinking with their hatchets to have knocked him in the head: but he ſo beſtirred himſelfe with the ſtock of his Piece, and after with the barrell, when that was broken, that hee brought two of their heads to the armie. His owne deſert, and the incouragement of others, will not ſuffer him to be nameleſſe. He is called *Francis Wainwright*, and came over ſervant with one *Alexander Knight* that kept an Inne in *Chelmsford*.

I have done with this tragick ſcene, whoſe cataſtrophe ended in a triumph. And now give me leave to ſpeake ſomething of the preſent ſtate of things there. The tranſcribing of all Colonies is chargeable, fitteſt for Princes or ſtates to undertake. Their firſt beginnings are full of caſualty and danger, and obnoxious to many miſeries. They muſt be well grounded, well followed, and

mannaged with great ſtocks of money, by men of reſolution, that will not be daunted by ordinarie accidents. The *Bermuda's* and *Virgina* are come to perfection, from meane, or rather baſe beginnings, and almoſt by as weake meanes, beyond all expectation and reaſon. But a few private men, by uniting their ſtockes and deſires, have now raiſed *New England* to that height, that never any Plantation of *Spaniards*, *Dutch*, or any other arrived at, in ſo ſmall a time. Gaine is the load-ſtone of adventures: Fiſh and Furres, with Beaver-wooll, were ſpecious baits. But whiles men are all for their private profit, the publike good is neglected, and languiſheth. Wofull experience had too evidently inſtructed *New Englands* Colonies, in the precedents of *Guiana*, the *Charibe* Ilands, *Virginia*, and *Nevania*, or *Newfound-land*, (now againe to be planted by Sir *David Kirke*, though part of the old Planters there yet remaine.) Wee are never wiſer, than when wee are thus taught. The *New-Englanders* therfore advanced the weale publike all they could, and ſo the private is taken care for.

Corne and Cattell are wonderfully encreaſed with them, and thereof they have enough, yea ſometime to ſpare to new commers, beſides ſpare roomes, or good houſes to entertaine them in. Where they may make Chriſtmas fires all winter, if they pleaſe, for nothing. I ſpeake not of the naturalls of the Countrey, fiſh, fowle, &c. which are more than plentifull. They that arri-

ved

ved there this yeare out of divers parts of Old England, ſay, that they never ſaw ſuch a field of 400. acres of all ſorts of Engliſh graine, as they ſaw at Winter-towne there. Yet that ground is not comparable to other parts of New England, as *Salem*, *Ipſwich*, *Newberry*, &c. In a word, they have built faire Townes of the lands owne materialls, and faire Ships too, ſome whereof are here to be ſeene on the Thames: they have overcome cold and hunger, are diſperſed ſecurely in their Plantations ſixty miles along the coaſt, and within the Land alſo, along ſome ſmall Creekes and Rivers, and are aſſured of their peace, by killing the *Barbarians*, better than our *Engliſh Virginians* were by being killed by them. For having once terrified them, by ſevere execution of juſt revenge, they ſhall never heare of more harme from them, except (perhaps) the killing of a man or two at his worke, upon advantage, which their Centinels, and Corps due guards may eaſily prevent. Nay, they ſhall have thoſe bruits their ſervants, their ſlaves, either willingly, or of neceſſity, and docible enough, if not obſequious. The numbers of the *Engliſh* amount to above thirty thouſand, which (though none did augment them out of *England*) ſhall every day be, doubtleſſe, encreaſed, by a faculty that God hath given the *Brittiſh* Ilanders to beget and bring forth more children, than any other nation of the world: I could juſtifie what I ſay from the mouthes of the *Hollanders* and adjoyning Provinces, where they

confeſſe (though good breeders of themſelves) that never woman bore two children, nor yet had ſo many by one man, till the *Engliſh* and *Scots* frequented their warres and married with them. I could give a good reaſon hereof from nature, as a Phyloſopher (with modeſtie be it ſpoken) but there is no neede. The aire of *New England*, and the diet equall, if not excelling that of *Old England*: beſides their honour of marriage, and carefull preventing and puniſhing of furtive congreſſion, giveth them and us no ſmall hope of their future puiſſance, and multitude of ſubjects. Herein, ſaith the Wiſeman, conſiſteth the ſtrength of a King, and likewiſe of a nation, or Kingdome.

But the deſire of more gaine, the ſlavery of mankind, was not the onely cauſe of our *Engliſh* endeavours for a plantation there. The propagation of Religion was that precious jewell, for which theſe Merchant venturers compaſſed both Sea and Land, and went into a farre Countrey to ſearch and ſeate themſelves. This I am ſure, they pretended, and I hope intended. Only this bleſſing from my heart I ſincerely wiſh them, and ſhall ever beſeech the Almighty to beſtow upon them, devout Piety towards God, faithfull loyalty towards their Soveraigne, fervent charity among themſelves, and diſcretion and ſobriety in themſelves, according to the ſaying of that bleſſed Apoſtle, μὴ ὑπερφρονεῖν παρ' ὃ δεῖ φρονεῖν, ἀλλὰ φρονεῖν εἰς τὸ σωφρονεῖν. *Rom.* 12. 3. Not to be wiſe (in ſpirituall things)

things) above what we ought to be wiſe; but to be wiſe unto wiſe ſobriety.

Doubtleſſe there was no other way better, to chaſtiſe the inſolencie of theſe inſulting homicides, than a ſharpe warre purſued with dexterity and ſpeed. *Virginia* our mother plantation, and for her precedent a rule, hath taught us what to doe in theſe difficulties, forewarned, forearmed. They were endangered by their friendſhip and peace, ſecured by their enmity and warre with the natives. From theſe experiments, ſhall the now inhabitants of thoſe two Siſter Lands, beate out unto themſelves an Armour of proofe, and lay a ſure foundation to their future happineſſe.

FINIS.